WESTERN RECORDER.

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Review.

ADDRESS ON CHURCH MUSIC: *Delivered by request, on the evening of Saturday, October 7th, 1826, in the Vestry of Hanover Church, and on the evening of Monday following, in the 3d Baptist Church, Boston: By Lowell Mason. pp. 42.* (*Concluded.*)

After passing some just strictures on the general character of singing schools & choirs, and pointing out the course of improvement which should be pursued respecting them, the speaker brings home the following serious charge against the christian community—a charge which our readers may rest assured, cannot be easily refuted:—

"The abuses of which we now complain are wholly to be attributed to the apathy of the church on this subject. The difficulties and disputes that so frequently occur in choirs; the gross violations of the Sabbath which grow out of the existing state of things; the whistling and talking and levity so often observable in the singers' seats; the thoughtless and even blasphemous manner in which the name of God is often used; all the solemn mockery of singing, as it now exists, is chargeable to the church. The guilt lies at her door, and the remedy is in her hands; and yet, alas! Christians and ministers suffer this thing to go on, without lifting a finger to stay its progress or to direct it into a proper channel, and without seeming to know or desiring to know what their duty is in relation to it, or that they have any responsibility in the case whatever."

Most fully are we persuaded that every word of this accusation is true; and we make this declaration after years of painful experience and observation; having been ourselves actively engaged in the field of cultivation, & enjoyed uncommon opportunities for ascertaining the existing causes of declension. Singing schools have been extensively conducted by incompetent men, and often by men without moral or religious principle. Christian professors have neglected these schools, and not unfrequently have felt it sinful to participate in them. They have neglected and practically despised the art; and have afterwards, when called to discharge an *acknowledged duty*, brought all their roughness of tone, false intonation, false accent, false time, false articulation, false expression, into the service, as if the lame, the blind, the torn, the maimed, might be accepted before the altar of the Highest in his sanctuary. Or not presuming to make such an offering in their own persons; they have often made it in the persons of the young, in a half-tutored choir—few of whom have any sympathies in common with the christian worshipper, or any higher motives for singing, than to build up society, to be personally amused, or to be *seen as skilful performers, before their fellow men.*

Sometimes, indeed, a church have suddenly aroused, under the strong impulse of a conviction of duty. But what have they done? They have driven the singers from their seats, and almost literally scourged them from the temple; and after endeavouring for a short space of time, to take the direction into their own hands, have discovered their own incompetency, abdicated the places they had taken, solicited the return of those whom they had dispersed, and then settled down into their former stupidity, under a conviction that some strange fatality is attached to the art, and that they had done all that *could* have been done respecting it.

But the truth is, they began at the wrong point; and their efforts were misdirected. They should have commenced with schools of cultivation, have gone personally there, corrected every abuse—all the irregularity, levity, profaneness—should have carried with them a decided religious influence, and have thus qualified themselves for leaders, before they assumed the direction.

Nor in doing this, would they have been under the least necessity of driving others from their seats. They might have even encouraged them to stay, and have infused into their minds deep feelings of solemnity; and in many instances, too, have been the means of awakening them to a sense of their lost condition. Such things *have been done;* and they might be done again, if the churches could only come into a general effort respecting them. Nothing else is wanted to lay a sure foundation of improvement.

But not to dwell longer on this topic, the next in course is that which relates to instrumental accompaniment. The writer contends for the admission of instruments into the church; but complains of their very general abuse. He would have them in all cases subordinate to the voice, except in congregational singing, the dissonance and jargon of which, he thinks, should if possible be drowned! "The art of accompaniment," he says, "seems to be as little understood, and as much abused by instrumentalists, as is the art of singing by vocalists."

"Instead of accompanying the singing, instrumental performers often take the lead of it. Instead of playing in a very soft and simple manner, and in exact unison with the voice, they will, for the sake of distinction, make as much noise as possible, raise their instruments an octave above the pitch, and introduce a multitude of shakes and flourishes and graces, (falsely so called), which are wholly out of place, and are equally offensive to correct musical taste and religious propriety." * * * * * * * * "Instruments should never be so prominent as to attract the attention of the audience, or draw off the mind from the subject of the poetry. Indeed, unless they can assist to enforce the sentiment of the words upon the heart, they are worse than useless. But this is what they are designed to do, and when properly used are *capable* of doing. How different is the effect produced by them as they are frequently used in our churches!"

The writer gives his preference to the organ, and is himself, we will venture to say, a practical organist of no common stamp. What he says respecting the management of this instrument, is, therefore, entitled to special attention.

"It is a great mistake to suppose that an organ must necessarily destroy vocal expression, or that because there is an organ, there is therefore no need of *vocal* performance. The only proper use of the organ is to accompany and assist the choir. Its use may be somewhat different, however, in most of those societies where singing is carried on by the whole congregation; because while here is no vocal expression to destroy, there is much discord which it is well to drown." * * * "Instead of relaxing exertions, therefore, to improve vocal music where an organ has been introduced, this very circumstance should be a powerful stimulus to increased efforts on account of the great assistance which may be derived from the instrument. But valuable as the organ is, how seldom do we find it well managed! How seldom are we able to realize its usefulness! They only who know its inestimable value in psalmody, when judiciously employed, and have felt its thrilling influence, are sensible to what an extent its powers are prostituted and its use perverted.

"The abuse of the organ may in almost all cases be traced to the character and qualifications of the organist. Mere *musical talents* will no more enable a man to *play*, than *sing*, church music appropriately; and probably Handel, or Bach, (two of the greatest organists that ever lived), were as unfit to *accompany*, as Braham or Madam Catalini would be to *lead*, a choir of singers in public worship. Execution, or a mere ability to play expertly upon his instrument, is probably not more important to the organist, than eloquence is to the preacher."

* * * * "A minister must, indeed, be able to speak acceptably in the pulpit; and if eloquent, and at the same time possessing the other qualifications, so much the better. So with the organist: He must be able to play in a plain and appropriate style, (which is not difficult to acquire); and if he be a finished performer, so much the better, provided he possess the other more important qualifications. What these qualifications are, must occur to the mind of every person who considers the important station the organist occupies in the public worship of God, and the influence he is enabled to exert, through the medium of his instrument, upon the feelings of the audience. He should be a pious man, or one at least who has a deep sense of the solemnity of public worship. He should be a man of quick sensibility, or he will neither enter into the spirit of the words sung, nor of the other exercises of the day. He must be a man of good judgment, or he will make the most fatal mistakes, in accompanying such hymns as call forth, in different stanzas, emotions of a different character. He should understand the nature of his instrument and the object of its introduction into the church, as an accompaniment to the voices—subservient to vocal effect, or rather designed to promote it; and while he acknowledges his *instrument* to be subordinate to *vocal music*, he should acknowledge *himself* to be subordinate to the *leader* of the choir, on whom the responsibility of the whole performance depends. Were such organists employed, there would be fewer complaints of loud and unmeaning playing—of long, flourishing and fanciful interludes, foreign to the subject and unfit for the church—of difficulties between organists and singers, and trustees and committees, and a thousand other ills that church music now is heir to."

As to the organist being entirely *subservient to the leader*, this can be only in proportion as a leader understands his duty, and is *capable* of taking the direction. Under other circumstances the organist must be prime manager. A good understanding should always exist between the parties.

The address closes with some judicious remarks on adaptation—on the influence of the clergy in this department, and on the importance of having musical professorships established in our theological seminaries. This last is a suggestion not entirely new; and it is devoutly wished that it might be acted upon without delay.

New-York Legislature.

TUESDAY, *January* 2, 1827.

The Legislature of this state assembled this day, at the capitol, in the city of Albany. In the Senate 27 members, and in the Assembly 118 members were present.

Gen. Root, of Delaware county, was elected Speaker of the House of Assembly. The choice was made by ballot, and the result was as follows: For Gen. Root, 74; Francis Granger, 38; two scattering votes, and five blanks.

[Gen. Root had been nominated for Speaker, at a caucus held the preceding evening; when Mr. Bucklin, of Jefferson county, was his competitor, and on the two first ballots received the most votes, but not a majority of the whole number.]

On being conducted to the chair, Gen. R. addressed the House to the following effect:—

"*Gentlemen*—For this distinguished mark of favour and confidence in my faculties to perform the duties of the chair, and the belief that I will use them to the advantage of the proceedings of the House, accept my unfeigned thanks. I assure you that it will not be owing to a want of diligence, if the credit of the chair is not sustained, as it has been honourably sustained heretofore.

"It is usual for the Speaker to assure the House, that he will pursue an impartial course of proceeding. If by impartiality is meant to throw aside the principles which distinguish the party to which I belong, it must not be expected that I will be impartial. I was elected to the legislature by a political party, and it would appear that I am honoured with this chair by the same party. When a committee is to be appointed on a question which may involve party considerations, it may be expected that I shall appoint a majority of that committee from the party to which I belong. And on a question of local bearing, involving interests to any considerable extent, it cannot be expected that I will refer it to a committee entirely opposed to it. I am not willing to put a child to nurse to be strangled.

"In the ordinary rules of legislation, my friends must not expect more lenity than I show to those who are politically opposed. In this, I promise to be impartial.

"I conclude by expressing a hope that we shall have a prosperous and happy session. Some wrangling may be expected; but I hope that little broils may not effervesce, so as to bring them in operation to the detriment of the ordinary transaction of business, which may come before the house, an important part of which will be the revision of the laws."

Edward Livingston, of Albany, was re-appointed clerk: John C. Ellis, of Onondaga county, was appointed sergeant-at-arms; and Wm. Seely and J. D. Scallard were re-appointed door-keepers.

At 12 o'clock, the Governor transmitted to both Houses the following

MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the Assembly:

A review of the past year must excite the deepest emotions of gratitude to the Almighty Dispenser of all good, for the signal blessings conferred on this community. In every direction we perceive the footsteps of growing improvement and progressive prosperity. In the erection of new and the augmentation of old villages, towns and cities, we recognize the animating spirit of easy communication, and the wide spreading advantages of internal trade. This increase of our markets will necessarily create a dispensation and interchange of benefits, that must be felt in every operation of labor, and in every department of industry. The commercial gloom, which was some months since spread over the civilized world, has in a great measure disappeared; and it is to be hoped, that learning wisdom from experience, and moderation from adversity, we will never again witness a recurrence of a spirit of overweening speculation and overreaching cupidity, equally injurious to good morals and social prosperity.

As a component part of a great federal republic, it is our incumbent duty to support the general government in all its measures that are worthy of support, to cultivate amity and good will with our confederates, and to discountenance all tendencies to overthrow by consolidation, or to destroy by dismemberment, our admirable systems of government. Peace with all the world is with us a primary duty and a cardinal interest. Whatever may be the aspect, or whatever the direction of our foreign negociations, there is no reason to apprehend any change in our pacific relations; nor can we imagine the possibility of any diplomatic involutions, that may place us in a position, from which we cannot advance without danger, nor recede without disgrace. Powerful in defensive, and ill adapted for offensive war; calculated by position, destined by interest, and enjoined by duty, to be a pacific nation; we must sedulously abstain from entangling or identifying ourselves with the political arrangements of other nations. In relation to our domestic concerns, the path of duty is equally plain. We have only to pursue the same policy, which has conducted us to opulence, and established our prosperity and reputation on imperishable foundations.

Another attempt, as futile as the former, has been made by a custom-house collector in the west, to apply the revenue laws of the United States to the navigation of the Erie canal. It does not appear that this proceeding has received any countenance from higher authorities, nor can it for a moment be believed that a claim so preposterous in its assumptions, and so pernicious in its results, would at any time be encouraged in any quarter. As the spirit of internal improvement is rapidly extending in every direction, it has become a question of great moment, whether the general government has power, with or without the consent of the state governments, to construct canals and roads in their territories; and whether such power, if not already vested, ought to be granted. High authorities are to be found on both sides of this question; and after devoting to it all the consideration, to which, from its importance, it is entitled, I think it due to a sense of duty and a spirit of frankness to say, that my opinion is equally hostile to its possession or exercise by, or its investment in the national authorities. I can perceive in it nothing less than the harbinger of certain destruction to the state governments; nor can we but see that it at once breaks down the barrier between a government for national or exterior affairs, and local governments for domestic or interior concerns. As well might Congress take cognizance of agriculture, common schools, universities, penal codes, and the whole range of local and internal regulation, as of roads and canals. As, however, the general government is possessed of the national domains, and has exclusive authority over the most productive sources of revenue, I believe that the power of distributing the necessary funds among the several states, for objects of public improvement, ought to be incorporated in the constitution, if not recognized as already in existence.

While on the subject of amendments to our national constitution, I cannot but express my regret, that the enlightened and magnanimous views of this state, in relation to the choice of President and Vice-President, have not been realized. Our overture was to establish an uniform rule of choosing electors by the people and by districts. In committing this power to the people, it vests it in its appropriate depositary, the legitimate sovereign of the country, diminishes the chances of corruption and the dangers of foreign influence, destroys the evils of pre-existing bodies for the election of the colleges, and prevents combinations of a few great states to create by their own power the national chief magistrates. The provision is perfectly safe, unless the people be venal and profligate, and then liberty is in all cases without protection, and free government without hope. It is fair and equal, if it be uniform; but without insertion into the constitution, it will subvert a just representation of power. I am persuaded, that as the legislature of a great state, you feel above the influence of any considerations connected with an invidious and dangerous assumption or exercise of power. The great states will always possess an influence correspondent with the most extensive combinations of moral and physical power, unless they become the dupes of extraneous intrigue or the victims of internal agitation; and they therefore ought to abdicate all pretensions, and avoid all associations, calculated to excite the jealousy, or diminish the just rights of the minor members of the confederacy.

A controversy, much to be regretted, has existed for some years between our sister New-Jersey and us. Our claim of jurisdiction and territory reaches to low water mark on the west side of the Hudson & the sound that separates Staten-Island from New-Jersey, while the adverse title extends ad filum aquæ. In 1807 this controversy was submitted to negociation, which terminated with more precipitation than good temper, and without any favorable result. Subsequently, and in the same year, New-Jersey passed an act for the protection of her claims, and imposing severe penalties. During the following year, New-York passed a law of a retaliatory character, but not so penal in its inflictions. Our act of 1798, was not intended to refer to New-Jersey. It was passed during the administration of the venerable and highly respected Governor Jay, and a long time before the agitation of this controversy. Its object was to bear on a title derived from another state, absurd in itself, indefensible in all respects, injurious to the increase of our population, and perplexing to our citizens; and the law had the contemplated effect. In 1825, an attempt was made to adjust this controversy, by instituting a new board of commissioners, clothed with authority to negociate, subject to ratification, and a law was enacted for the purpose by New-Jersey. A correspondent bill passed the Senate unanimously, which owing to an inexplicable opposition, was so long procrastinated in the Assembly, that it was merged in unfinished business; since which period this controversy has assumed a more serious aspect. A ministerial officer of this state has been arrested in New-Jersey, for serving process within the disputed jurisdiction; and he is liable to incarceration in a state-prison. I conceive it due to the comity that ought to exist between independent communities, to the amity which ought to be cherished by bordering and confederate states, to a sense of justice, magnanimity and self respect, to allay the exasperated feelings which prevail, and to close with a negociation again agreed to by our sister republic. I shall transmit to you, in due time, the documents which relate to this subject.

The precarious and uncertain condition of the elective franchise, depending more on the volition and agency of assessors, collectors, militia officers, and road masters, than on a fixed and certain tenure, rendered it necessary that defects so glaring and dangerous should be removed by constitutional amendment. In 1825, I called the attention of the legislature to this subject, and I now have the satisfaction to announce, that the right of election has been established on a firm and certain basis; the amendment for that purpose having received the sanction of the two last legislatures, and the almost unanimous vote of the people. As the right of suffrage composes the essence of freedom, and is the vital and characteristic principle of representative government, it ought to be fortified against corruption, illuminated by knowledge, and shielded by moral and political virtue. Our elections, which have occupied three days, and occasioned much contention, many irregularities, and some flagrant violations of rectitude, may now be compressed within a shorter period, and conducted with more regularity and purity. Lists of the qualified voters in each town may be periodically compiled, and resorted to as conclusive evidence of a right to exercise the elective franchise in a particular place, by which means, partiality, fraud, and perjury may be prevented. Severe restraints ought also to be established against the pernicious practice of employing hirelings to bring up votes—of beleaguering the polls to the annoyance or exclusion of aged, infirm and orderly citizens—of dispensing donations or largesses of any kind, to influence votes, or of employing any means of intimidation or corruption, that may affect the purity and independence of the elective franchise.

But after all, the great bulwark of republican government is the cultivation of education, for the right of suffrage cannot be exercised in a salutary manner without intelligence. It is gratifying to find that education continues to flourish. We may safely estimate the number of our common schools at eight thousand; the number of children taught during the last year, on an average of eight months, at four hundred and thirty thousand, and the sum expended in instruction at two hundred thousand dollars. It is however too palpable, that our system is surrounded by imperfections, which demand the wise consideration and improving interposition of the legislature. In the first place there is no provision made for the education of competent instructors. Of the eight thousand now employed in this state, too many are destitute of the requisite qualifications, and perhaps no considerable number are able to teach beyond rudimental instruction. Ten years of a child's life, from five to fifteen, may be spent in a common school; and ought this immense portion of time to be absorbed in learning what can be acquired in a short period? Perhaps one fourth of our population is annually instructed in our common schools; and ought the minds and morals of the rising and perhaps the destinies of all future generations, to be entrusted to the guardianship of incompetence? The scale of instruction must be elevated; the standard of education ought to be raised; and a central school on the monitorial plan ought to be established in each county, for the education of teachers, and as exemplars for other momentous purposes connected with the improvement of the human mind. The trustees of the public school society of New-York have issued a prospectus for the establishment of a central school in that city, wherein are to be taught for the education of teachers, natural philosophy, practical mathematics, mercantile arithmetic, book-keeping, and the outlines of natural science. A school on a similar plan, and embracing a variety of important objects, has been founded by some enlightened and public spirited citizens in Livingston county; and there is reason to hope that these meritorious exertions will be crowned with complete success. I cannot speak in terms of sufficient praise of these most laudable attempts, nor recommend them too emphatically to public patronage and general imitation. Small and suitable collections of books and maps attached to our common schools, and periodical examinations to test the proficiency of the scholars, and the merits of the teachers, are worthy of attention. When it is understood that objects of this description enter into the very formation of our characters, control our destinies through life, protect the freedom and advance the glory of our country; and when it is considered that seminaries for general education are either not provided in the old world, or but imperfectly supplied by charity & Sunday schools, and that this is the appropriate soil of liberty and education, let it be our pride, as it is our duty, to spare no exertion, and to shrink from no expence, in the promotion of a cause consecrated by religion and enjoined by patriotism. Nor let us be regardless of ample encouragement of the higher institutions devoted to literature and science. Independently of their intrinsic merits, and their diffusive and enduring benefits, in reference to their appropriate objects, they have, in a special manner, a most auspicious influence on all subordinate institutions.—They give to society men of improved and enlarged minds, who feeling the importance of information in their own experience, will naturally cherish an ardent desire to extend its blessings. Science delights in expansion as well as in concentration; and after having flourished within the precincts of acad-

emies and universities, will spread itself over the land, enlightening society and ameliorating the condition of man. The more elevated the tree of knowledge, and the more expanded its branches, the greater will be its trunk, and the deeper its root.

Simultaneously with the improvement of the constitution relative to the elective franchise, another amendment was adopted, committing the choice of justices of the peace to the people. These appointments have been considered as intimately connected with political influence, from the earliest periods of our history. Under the colonial governors, they were made not so much with a view to fitness, as to the support dispensed to friendly members of the Assembly. Under the council of appointment, these offices depended on the fluctuations of party ascendancy; and under the new constitution, a complex system was established, which ostensibly created an appointing power in every county, but in reality brought the substance of it home to the seat of government; and it was attended with the political solecism, of not only converting the county judges into a co-ordinate appointing power, but of investing them with authority to remove their associates in the general sessions from office, while sitting on the same bench. The people are at last possessed of the right of choosing their own local magistrates, and the appointment of nearly three thousand offices is thus placed in the proper depository. The common place objection of the dangers of an elective judiciary can have no weight in its application to this case. The aldermen of New-York and Albany, who are ex-officiis judges of the county courts, have been elected, from the first foundation of those cities, and no just imputation has been made on that account against the honest and independent exercise of their functions. Your attention will of course be afforded to such legislation as may be requisite to carry these important improvements into full effect.

The charter of the New-York Historical Society, which had expired by its own limitation, was renewed at the last session, but without the pecuniary aid that was solicited, and which would have been worthily bestowed, considering the light which its researches and collections have shed on the history of America in general, and of this state in particular. It appears that the society has recently procured and published a manuscript continuation, from 1732 to 1762, of Smith's History of this Province. The translations of our Dutch records, at the public expense, by the learned Doctor Vanderkemp, have opened sources of historical information, which were before locked up in a language little known, and in manuscripts scarcely legible. In 1814, the Historical Society addressed a memorial to the legislature, wherein it indicated several places for important acquisitions. In the office of the board of trade and plantations in England, in the British museum, and in the library of the society for the propagation of the gospel in America, books and manuscripts of great moment relative to our history may be found; and it would be very useful to obtain transcripts of all publications and documents in those quarters, which may elucidate our annals in their aboriginal and colonial state.

An authentic and official map of the state is a desideratum which cught to be supplied; and this is suggested without any disparagement of the laudable attempts which heve been made by individuals for that purpose.

The provision made at the last session, for the extension and support in the city of New-York, of the house of refuge for juvenile delinquents, has been faithfully and beneficially applied. A separate and accommodating building has been erected for females; and schools on the monitorial plan have been successfully established. The institution now contains one hundred and thirty-one males, and thirty females, who have been rescued from the most abject debasement; and preservative as well as remedial in its influences, it must be considered a noble as well as successful experiment in favor of humanity. All, however, will depend on a continuance of able superintendence; and it is hoped that the philanthropic men, who have gratuitously and perseveringly devoted themselves to this great work, will not relax in their exertions. Instances have occurred, where the most abandoned youth, after having experienced the moral purification of the house of refuge, have encountered the dangerous exposures of a maritime life, without the least detriment to their good habits. It is to be regretted that some very young convicts have been sentenced in the counties to the state-prison, when they ought to have been sent to this penitentiary; and it appears that a conviction recently took place in the circuit court of the United States, where the criminal was a proper subject for the latter, but that this designation could not take place, as the law allowing the use of our prisons and penitentiaries for offenders against the U. States, only applies to commitments before trial. This is an accidental omission, and ought to be rectified. It is gratifying to observe the increasing attention to institutions of this kind in other states, and the probability of their extensive establishment; and it is also gratifying to know, that nothing has been done in favor of the house of refuge, which has in the remotest degree interfered with the interests and concerns of our quarantine establishment. All its needful requirements have been amply satisfied; and besides the payment of all its expenses, an extensive brick hospital with other useful erections, is in a train of completion.

The debt created by the construction of the Erie and Champlain canals, and subsidiary works, amounts to seven million nine hundred forty-four thousand seven hundred and seventy dollars and ninety cents, paying an interest of six and five per cts. The interest on the whole is $427,673 55 per annum; and the fund applicable to the extinguishment of this debt, will, it is believed, amount this year to $1,057,558 46; to wit:

From tolls,	$771,780 10
From auction duties, for the fiscal year ending 30th of November last,	200,787 84
Salt duties,	77,405 33
Other sources,	7,635 19

By the constitution, this fund cannot, nor ought it to be, diverted from its designated object. This state has derived great reputation from its enterprise in undertaking, and its perseverance in executing a work of immense benefit, and it ought to set another example of the extinguishment of a great public debt. This precedent will be more beneficial in itself, and more animating in all its aspects and consequences, than any fugitive or even permanent advantages that can emanate from another course. In the mean time, we must feel certain that this important object will be soon accomplished, and we can safely make prospective calculations accordingly. The primary object of all improvements, which create and facilitate communication by land or water, is the public accommodation and the promotion of internal commerce. Revenue, although a desirable, is only a secondary inducement; and whenever a collision arises, the subaltern must, as in all other instances, yield to the principal consideration. The standard, by which all operations of this kind ought to be regulated, is the public ability to sustain the expence; and although income may enter into the consideration of that question, yet when the capacity may exist without reference to the proceeds of a work erected for the general accommodation, the resulting avails can never be the controling inducement; and it ought always to be emphatically understood, that the expenditure of public money in works of utility, enriches the country in which it is applied, increases its ability to defray the public burdens, establishes profitable markets in all directions, enhances the value of land, augments the amount of capital, and rewards the exertions of industry and the exhibitions of ingenuity. In times of pressure, no relief can be more effectual; and the experience of the country through which the western and northern canals were constructed, evinced the absence of those distresses which for a considerable portion of the time were felt in almost every other quarter. The funds thus employed circulate from the extremities to the heart of the body politic, quickening the movements of labor, animating the operations of capital, and augmenting the productions of industry.

Our canals have been principally made by the state, and our roads by incorporated companies, by individuals, by towns and counties, and by the state at large. In those improvements which are to be achieved in future, there will undoubtedly be full scope for all these sources of contribution, and they will demand all the united efforts of our disposable capital and labour. The canals which now principally occupy the public attention, embrace a navigable union of the principal bays on Long-Island—of the Hudson and Delaware rivers—of the Erie canal with the east and west branches of the Susquehannah, with the Allegany river, with Lake Ontario by great Sodus bay, with Black and St. Lawrence rivers, and between the latter river and Lake Champlain; and even a canal from Lake Erie to the Hudson river, by an entire new route, has been suggested as practicable and expedient, and urged with great earnestness and energy. Of all the operations which have been conducted by incorporations, there is none entitled to more commendation and public favour than the canal constructed by the Delaware and Hudson canal company, comprising a distance of sixty-three miles, from the Delaware to the Hudson river. This work will be navigable at the opening of the spring, embraces 61 locks, besides culverts, aqueducts, bridges and other necessary appurtenances. It was commenced in August, 1825, and was performed with great economy as well as skill, and at an expence below the estimate. There still remains to be executed about twenty miles, from the point where the canal strikes the Delaware, along the valley of that river, to the mouth of the Lackawaxen. From thence it is contemplated to have a communication to the anthracite coal beds, from which coal in any quantity and of excellent quality, may be brought along this route, and delivered at the towns on the Hudson for three dollars and nine cents a ton. It is supposed that a canal might be continued from the termination of this, at the confluence of the Lackawaxen and Delaware, to Deposite on the latter river, a distance of sixty-six miles, and from thence to Bettsburgh, on the Susquehannah, thirteen miles; from which place, on examinations instrumental and personal, it is understood that a good navigation might be effected along the vallies of the Susquehannah and Tioga, and of the branches of the latter as far west as Hornellsville, in Steuben county, forming a continuous line of canal for 230 miles at least; and it is believed that this navigable communication may be extended to Portland, on Lake Erie, and to Pittsburgh, at the head of the Ohio. But it is sufficient to say, that this canal, considered without any reference to its extension, is of vast importance in the accommodations which it will afford, and as such it is entitled to your countenance. In what precise shape this ought to be manifested, will of course be a subject of your wise deliberations.

I have great pleasure on this occasion, in recommending to your favorable notice a company which was incorporated on the 9th of April, 1824, by an act, entitled "an act to incorporate the Orange and Sussex Canal Company." The object of this corporation is to form a navigable communication between the Hudson, near Newburgh, and the Delaware near the Water Gap, and which it is conjectured may be extended to the Susquehannah. The state of New Jersey has passed a concurrent act of incorporation. The whole distance is about 88 miles. The ascent from the Hudson to the summit level is about 430 feet, from whence the descent to the Delaware is 207. The whole line is through a spacious valley, formed by a continuation of the Catskill mountains on the one side, and of the highlands on the other. This region is replenished with valuable minerals and lumber of all kinds, and its abundant fertility is conceded. The only question that can exist as to the feasibility of this project, is as to a sufficient supply of water at certain periods; but it is highly probable that the pending examinations will dissipate all apprehensions in this respect.

There are five routes proposed between the Erie canal & the Susquehannah, to wit: from the head of the Seneca lake to the Tioga or Chemung river; from the head of the Cayuga lake to Owego; by Otsego lake; by the valley of the Chenango river; and from Manlius, through Pompey and Homer, to Chenango point. Five communications are also contemplated between the same canal and the Allegany river; by the valley of the Genesee to Olean Point; by that of Tonewanda to the same point, and also from Buffalo to the same place, by Buffalo creek, Lime lake and Ischua creek; by the valley of the Conewango, and by Lakes Erie and Chautauque. Several routes have been indicated, and some explored, from the Erie canal to the St. Lawrence; and the practicability and utility in particular, of a canal from Rome through Boonville or Camden to Ogdensburgh, are put beyond all doubt. I have heretofore had occasion to speak in the most favorable terms of some of these projected communications, and time and enquiry have confirmed my impressions.

Bituminous coal of good quality, surrounded by approved iron ore, is found in the greatest abundance, and can be procured with little expence in Pennsylvania, about twenty miles from the line of this state; and as soon as the Seneca lake is united with the Tioga, may be conveyed to this city for about seven dollars a ton. It is due to justice to state, that the prominent objection made last session against the Chenango canal is completely prostrated; for a scrutinizing examination has demonstrated that a plenary supply of water can be obtained at all seasons. Anthracite coal from Belmont, in Pennsylvania, can be obtained through this channel, and strong indications exist of the presence of coal in Oxford. There can be no doubt but that a productive revenue will be derived from the conveyance, particularly of that fossil, salt, and gypsum. I shall not however trespass on your time by entering more into detail. But permit me to remark, that the expence of such operations may be greatly diminished by the adoption of wooden locks in forest countries, and of inclined planes in hilly regions. From the experiments already made, there can be but little doubt of the successful substitution of the latter. I submit the whole subject to your enlightened consideration, not doubting but that you will view it in all its attitudes and bearings, and with a full determination to dispense such encouragement as may be authorised by the merits of the projects, and by the resources of the commonwealth, and with a judicious view of prospective as well as present considerations, and of all the beneficial combinations and consequences that must necessarily flow from extending the sphere of our improvements, and exciting into activity all the springs of productive industry.

It is presumed to be a general rule of easy application and execution, that the cost of the repairs and superintendence of a canal ought not to exceed one-tenth of its gross income. Whether this is the case with us is not easily ascertained, because the expenditures for repairs and new erections are probably in some instances mixed together. But I am persuaded that a system of precautionary economy and considerable retrenchment might be adopted, greatly to the advantage of the canal fund, and in favor of other improvements. Complaints are made, and I have no doubt with good cause, in several instances, of the high rates of toll, as having a discouraging influence on our trade. If high, they may have a prohibitory effect, and prevent entirely, or for certain distances, the transit of some articles. The cheaper the conveyance, the more commodities will be conveyed; and the profits of the canals may be thus augmented, instead of being diminished by our duties. It is indeed supposed that the tolls on some commodities may be reduced or approximated to the constitutional minimum, without any loss of revenue; and it is a subject worthy of your serious consideration, whether the power of imposing transit duties or taxes, being a legislative power, ought to be delegated or transferred, unless under extraordinary circumstances.

The construction of a great road from the Hudson river to Lake-Erie, through the south-western counties, has been for a considerable time under public consideration, and for two consecutive sessions under legislative discussion. Its claims to public favor are generally well understood and I believe duly appreciated. Like all other momentous plans, it is not without its opposers, whose motives are undoubtedly pure, although there may be little force in their objections. Some are hostile from views of economy; others from local feelings, and probably a few from not comprehending the whole merits of a project of such diversified bearings, and such colossal dimensions. If a road be advantageous and accommodating for a short distance, its benefits must be felt in the ratio of its extension; and if its passage be through a fertile country, of various and inexhaustible powers of production, calculated in some parts for grain, in others for cattle and the dairy, filled with valuable timber and minerals, it must not only open a lucrative market to our great cities, but establish places of sale and purchase for the accommodation of a dense population, which will spring up in the whole range, and spread over the whole area of the interior. We need only cast our eyes on Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and duly estimate the condition of those prosperous cities and the intervening regions, in order to realize the soundness of these views; and when our canals and rivers are locked up by ice, we will still be able to find a way to the ocean. You will excuse my repeated mention of this subject, for I assure you that I cherish no other feelings, than those which are connected with a deep solicitude for the public welfare; and I think that I may venture to entertain some confidence on this occasion, speaking as I do from personal examination, cautious investigation, and mature deliberation; and I am entirely willing to encounter my full share of the responsibility of a measure, which will make the wilderness and solitary places glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose.

In the satisfaction which we experience from the view of our improvements, prospective as well as actual, we cannot but participate in the gratifications which must be derived from the prevalence of a similar spirit in other portions of the Union. Ohio is pushing her vast operations with a spirit, energy and success, worthy of all praise; and one of our citizens has, greatly to his honor, loaned her a million of dollars for that purpose. A canal is rapidly constructing around the falls of Ohio. A navigable communication between the waters of the Chesapeake and Delaware, is in successful progress. And besides the meritorious canals in Pennsylvania, which have been made and are making, by associated enterprise, that great state has established a board for public improvements, with a view to more extended operations. A communication is also contemplated between the waters of the Potomac and the Ohio; and it is ardently hoped that this stupendous project will be as successful in its execution, as it is magnificent in its design, and that its interests will be promoted by the most liberal contributions of public munificence.

The late alarming commercial convulsions, ought to inculcate the necessity of avoiding a recurrence of those calamities, by avoiding the causes which produced them. Heretofore the calamitous derangements in Great-Britain have been ascribed to a variety of causes, but principally to a transition state from war to peace, and to excess of production; but I believe that the better opinion now is, that they are chiefly imputable to excessive emissions of paper money, in the shape of bank notes: And as similar distresses were experienced almost contemporaneously in this country, we may trace them to similar causes. The profits of our city banks, besides interest on actual capital, are derived from discounts on deposits, and issues of paper money; and those of the country banks, principally from the last source. A bank, generally speaking, may issue notes to three times the amount of the capital paid in. This, although intended for a wholesome restriction, is in reality a most pernicious authorization, and can never be justified by any state of things. The authority to create money will almost always be abused; and the expedients to produce a forced and artificial circulation of bank paper, and to redeem it on every alarm and convulsion, must inevitably scatter distrust and confusion in the moneyed market, engender a system of deleterious speculation, derange the natural course of trade, and produce those alternations of prices which are injurious to all descriptions of people. In these struggles of cupidity, a few great fortunes may be made; but fraud, peculation and bankruptcy will follow in their train. The regular current of business will be checked; credit will be banished; and capital will either seek security in abstraction from business, or tempted by high profits, will give the reins to an adventuring spirit, and participate in the general wreck and ruin. It is to be ardently hoped that the legislature will exercise more than ordinary circumspection in future. A few solitary cases may present, where chartered grants may be auspicious to particular places and the surrounding country; but the power of making money is a dangerous faculty, and its liability to perversion is in proportion to its extension. Banking privileges, deposited in unskilful hands, may be abused without design and from ignorance; but when granted to fraudulent men, who prefer wealth to character, and the gratifications of avarice to the honours of virtue, there will scarcely be bounds to the evils that will ensue; and experience has evinced, that applications of this kind are made almost always for personal benefit, not for public accommodation. Some general regulations are indispensably necessary, for restricting the issues of bank paper; for prescribing the possession of a certain quantity of metallic money, and adequate security for the redemption of bank notes and the payment of debts; for compelling the attendance and increasing the responsibility of directors; for detecting any errors or misstatements in the periodical renditions of the state of banking institutions, and for prohibiting the circulation of bank notes below a certain sum; and it is believed by many respectable and well informed citizens, that insurance might be obtained at a cheaper rate, and from sources equally safe with the present, if the act to prevent foreigners from becoming insurers in certain cases in this state were repealed.

The revision of our statutes will necessarily bring before you the merits of our criminal code. There is one capital defect which pervades the whole system, and that is the extensive latitude which is given to judicial discretion in the dispensation of punishments. We have sixty-three criminal courts, besides tribunals of summary jurisdiction for the trial of petty offences. There is of course great disparities in punishments. Again, the specific statutory punishments are sometimes so unequal in their application to crimes, that injustice bordering on cruelty may result. All kinds of burglary, whether merely technical or highly aggravated, are punished with imprisonment for life in the state prison. Hence offences of a trivial nature, not exceeding sometimes petty larceny in depravity or danger, may receive that tremendous infliction. Manslaughter sometimes borders on excusable homicide, and at other times assimilates to murder. In England it is punishable with fine or transportation. Here the punishment must not be less than three, nor more than fourteen years in the state prison. For a second conviction for petty larceny, the convict must go to the state prison for three years, and the first conviction may be a summary one, without the intervention of a jury. I have recently pardoned a convict of this description, after an imprisonment of more than a year, and well recommended in other respects, whose first offence consisted in stealing a whip lash, and the second a shilling. The counterfeiting or fraudulently uttering gold or silver coin, is punishable with imprisonment for life. The same offence in relation to paper money, may be visited with the same imprisonment, or for a period not less than seven years. The possession of metallic money, with intent to pass it, may be punished for not more than seven years; and the possession of paper money, with the like intent, must be punished for not less than seven years. It will at once be perceived, that among the many evils which proceed from these disparities and incongruities, not the least are the continual applications for pardons, and sometimes the absolute necessity of the interference of the Executive, who must either remain inexorable to the united voice of justice and mercy, and the recommendations of courts and juries, or countenance to a certain extent a departure from a strict system of penal inflictions.

Crimes are generally gradual in their progress, and most frequently commence in misdemeanors of no great aggravation. Hence the necessity of arresting their progress in the first stages of depravity. To houses devoted to gambling, intemperance and licentiousness, we may trace the degradation of our youth and the sources of parental affliction. It is alleged that there are defects in our laws for the prevention of immorality, which require your correcting interposition; and the importance of this suggestion is certainly deserving of your early notice.

During the recess, suits have been brought by claimants deriving title under the children of Roger Morris and Mary his wife, against grantees under the state; and in pursuance of the act more effectually to provide for defending the titles of certain persons in the counties of Putnam and Dutchess, derived from the people of this state, against any claims set up by or under the children of Roger Morris and Mary his wife, deceased, I have employed able counsel to assist the attorney-general in defending such suits. At the close of the last session, a committee was appointed by the Senate to confer with the claimants. I am not advised of the result of this arrangement; but I understand that a disposition still exists, on their part, for an amicable and accommodating negociation.

It sometimes happens from the lapse of years, that the titles of land are in some instances endangered by the want of authority to put the deeds on record. According to the present law, a deed cannot be recorded, unless its execution be proved by one of the subscribing witnesses, or be acknowledged by the grantor. There are deeds, however, to which the witnesses & grantors are all dead, or resident without the state. In these cases, their execution cannot be proved or acknowledged so as to be recorded; and consequently the owners of the lands can only use the deeds as evidence, by proving on trial in open court, first, that the subscribing witnesses reside out of the state or are dead, and secondly, the hand writing of the witnesses. But witnesses to prove the death or non-residence and the hand writing of subscribing witnesses, are fast lessening in number, as their ages advance. In this way the owners of lands may fail in their attempts to establish their titles; for although ancient deeds are sometimes given in evidence, without proof of their execution, where possession of the lands has corresponded with them, yet the term of time necessary to bring a deed under this denomination does not seem to be definitely settled. To obviate in some degree these evils, it might be advisable to provide for proving deeds, where the subscribing witnesses and grantors all reside out of the state or are dead, in like manner as the same deeds under the same circumstances would be proved in trials in open court, and also for allowing the deeds so proved to be put on record. As this proof would be rather special, it might be expedient to require it to be taken before one of the judges of our supreme or circuit courts, or before a judge of a similar grade in a different state.

In cases of vacancies in the offices of clerks and sheriffs of counties, the Executive is directed to order new elections within a prescribed period. As the strict execution of this act is sometimes attended with unnecessary inconvenience to the people, it is submitted to you whether it would not be expedient to convert this mandatory into a discretionary provision.

The frequent applications for field ordnance for the requisite supply of the artillery, is not a little perplexing to the commissary general; and as he is not provided with the means of compliance, that useful corps is greatly discouraged in its meritorious exertions.

Our code in relation to pauperism is nearly a transcript of the English system, and a worse model could not be found. Experience has shown that pauperism has increased in the ratio of its supplies and accommodations. The establishment of county alms-houses, with appendant farms for labor, has had a most mitigating effect, wherever the experiment has been fairly tried. Besides the diminution of expence, as well as the number of the poor, their comfort will be much increased; and it is said that if the avails of the excise were transferred, as they ought to be, from the towns, to the support of the county poor houses, that any other taxation for pauperism will be rendered unnecessary.

The extraordinary migrations to this state from foreign countries, during the last season, have been attended with privations, afflictions, and calamities, that strongly appeal to our humanity. Whatever discordant opinions may be entertained as to the policy, there can be none as to the benevolence of relief. Some of our cities and towns are already unduly burdened with persons of this description; and the distressing condition of so many human beings, certainly presents a strong case for the charity of the state.

As the demands of this state against the United States, for advances during the late war, were not finally adjusted, I requested the comptroller to repair to the seat of the national government, and to attend in person to this concern. This he has done as far as in his power, promptly and satisfactorily. At a time of great pressure and public danger, when the national government was crippled in its means, and paralysed in its operations, this state stepped forward and contributed all in its power to defend the soil and sustain the honor of our country. The governor of this state, for a portion of the war, had a command as major-general under the United States; and in military movements, as well as in the operations of the commissariat and the payment of the troops, there was a mixture of state and national authorities; and this too occurred at a period peculiarly perplexing, when the turmoils and agitations of the times interfered with a close and accurate attention to the ordinary routine of business. Hence arose confusion in the accounts, imperfections in the vouchers, and great embarrassments in all the arrangements. It was therefore to be expected, that the settlement of our demands would not be fettered by a fastidious application of technical formalities; but that the public spirit of the state would be met by a correspondent liberality. This anticipation not having been realized, and there being still equitably due 186,000 dollars on account of principal and interest, it will remain with you to determine on the expediency of an application to the national legislature, where alone justice can now be obtained.

The other object contemplated in the act for the settlement of our concerns with the United States, has been sedulously attended to, but without success: I mean the sale of our lands, buildings, fortifications, and heavy ordnance, on Staten-Island. I have understood that the very able board of engineers has considered those possessions as an important branch of a system of general defence; but hitherto no authority has been given to complete the purchase. In the mean time, an application has been made by the treasury department for three or four acres off the southern extremity of the land, for the site of a light house. It ought to be well understood before this disposition is made, whether it may not interfere with defensive erections, or impair the general value of the property.

Few events in our times have created a stronger and more general sensation than the coincident deaths, on the fiftieth anniversary of our national existence, of two of the immortal band of patriots and statesmen that composed the American Congress of 1776; the one the eloquent writer, and both the able advocates and

intrepid signers of the declaration of independence.

In cherishing those sentiments of respect and veneration which are due to distinguished and departed merit, let us not be unmindful of the immense debt of gratitu le which we owe to the surviving worthies of the revolution. Their number is constantly diminishing by the encroachments of advanced age, and the decay of constitutions impaired by the hardships of a military life. The claims of those excellent men for unrequited services and unsurpassed sufferings, are now before the councils of the nation. Let gratitude and justice unite in dispensing the full measure of just retribution, in imparting comfort to their declining years, and letting their end be peace.

It is suitable to this occasion to solicit your attention to the following resolve of Congress, passed on the 4th of October, 1777:—

"Resolved, that the Governor and Council of New-York be desired to erect a monument, at continental expence, of the value of five hundred dollars, to the memory of the late Brigadier Herkimer, who commanded the militia of Tryon county, in the state of New-York, and was killed fighting gallantly in defence of the liberty of these states."

At the most critical period of the revolutionary war, when this state was nearly surrounded by hostile forces, and when destroying armies were penetrating it in various directions, the gallant Herkimer fell on the field of battle at the head of his patriotic neighbors. This exhibition of heroic virtue attracted the distinguished notice of Congress; but the situation of the times presented obstacles to an immediate compliance with their resolve. As there can be no reason for further delay, I hope that this subject will occupy your early attention.

The expressions of confidence which I have uniformly experienced from the people of this state, and their renewed approbation on a recent occasion, have impressed me with sentiments of gratitude, which no time nor vicissitude can extinguish. But preferring the testimony of conduct to the language of profession, I shall cheerfully submit to the decision of time, my profound sense of the distinguished honors conferred on me for my humble exertions in favor of the prosperity of our country.

DE WITT CLINTON.

Albany, Jan. 2, 1827.

Religious Intelligence.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Additional particulars of the late disturbance at the Sandwich Islands are given in the last number of the Recorder & Telegraph; from which we perceive that the article copied into our columns last week, had reference not to transactions before alluded to, but to a more recent, violent and successful scene of outrage, from the crew of another vessel. The following appears in the Recorder & Telegraph:—

Outrage at the Sandwich Islands.—The letter of Mrs. Bingham, published in our last, does not expressly implicate Capt. Percival in the outrageous conduct of his crew. Rev. Mr. Richards, in a letter published in the N.Y. Commercial Advertiser, allows him the credit of interfering to quell the riot after it had occurred, and that he caused six or seven of his men to be whipped. But he adds, "The chiefs consider Capt. P. as much the instigator of the attack, as though he had headed the mob in person."—He mentions instances of Capt. P.'s railing at the law concerning females, speaking of the mission in the most hostile manner, threatening to shoot Mr. Bingham if he came to the council of chiefs, demanding the repeal of the law, and threatening to blow down the town. It appears, also, that the counsel of the wicked finally prevailed. Karaimoku was extremely ill, and Boki was at the head of the government. On the next morning after the riot, two messengers came from Capt. P. to the chiefs, saying they must repeal the law. Mr. R. adds—"Boki's courage failed, and he took such measures as in a good degree to comply with the demand; and multitudes of ignorant & degraded females have again resorted to the ships and their former abominable practices. Some of our christian friends at home may have shed a tear, when reading of the abuse of a British whale ship; but no evil came from that outrage. Tell them now to weep *tears of blood* over the lamentable consequences to this people of the violence and infamy of one of our own national vessels."—The prospect for the future, too, was dark. "It is probable the chiefs will never again act decidedly on this point, till some American officer of higher rank, and better principles than Capt. P. comes to the island, and by his example and authority does away the evil caused by him." In this state of things, we cannot be surprised that our missionary friends should say, "We feel that our situation is critical and at all times truly perilous. This is certain, that if many more such vessels as the Dolphin visit the islands there will be no hope for our lives." It is our consolation, however, that "the triumphing of the wicked is short." The Lord reigns, who will carry the counsel of the froward headlong! We believe also, that the government of the United States will interpose to prevent the recurrence of such flagrant enormities from the crews of vessels in the national service.

Theological Seminary.—Mr. Herbst, one of the directors of the seminary of the Lutheran church at Gettysburgh, Pa. contradicts the report, "that a gentleman from the missionary seminary at Basle, was about to embark for this country, and to be Professor of Sacred Literature" in that institution.—*Rec. & Tel.*

New Missionary.—The Rev. Mr. Lane and his wife, left this city on Monday last, to become connected with the station of the American Board among the Tuscarora Indians, in the state of NewYork.—*ib.*

Imposture.—Mr. Bartley, an English missionary, writes that the Greek monks have lately brought to the island of Zante, "one of the arms of John the Baptist!" and that they are enriching themselves by showing it to the credulous multitude. Some of the Greek ladies give as much as fifteen dollars for the sight of such rarities!

At a meeting held in New York, on the 26th ult. Hon. Jonas Platt chairman, a society was formed auxiliary to the Foreign Mission Society.

Revivals.

A gentleman at the west writes us, that there is an interesting revival at Warsaw, Genesee co. the subjects of which are considerably numerous; and another at Wayne, Steuben co.

The following communication is from a gentleman of high respectability; and one whose statements we have no hesitation in saying should be received with full confidence. It is dated at Potsdam, St. Lawrence co. N.Y.:—

For the Western Recorder.

A most powerful work of divine grace is now in progress in this town and Stockholm, such as we have never before witnessed, or heard of. In Stockholm, the first open acknowledgment of conviction was on Saturday last; on Saturday night the first hope was expressed; and by Monday noon, more than thirty were rejoicing; and all this in a scattered neighbourhood of farmers.

In what an eventful period do we live! Thirty persons in so short a time, in the midst of a scattered population! This may seem strange to those who would have every thing gradual, secret, and still. But after all, the Lord will work as he pleases; and nothing is too hard for him.

REVIVAL IN A LEGISLATURE!

A correspondent of the N. Y. Observer and Chronicle states, that during the session of the Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia, at Washington, Ga., "intelligence was received that a *work of grace had commenced among the members of the Legislature.* At an anxious meeting, fifteen of them were enquirers, and five or six of them indulged a hope that they had found the Messiah."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Frankfort, (Ky.) to the editor of the Connecticut Observer, dated Dec. 6, 1826.

"In general, I think, there is better attention to the means of grace, and more seriousness among the people, than for many years past. In this town and vicinity the prospect is more encouraging than it has been. A work of divine grace commenced in the college at Danville in July last, which has extended to the adjoining counties. Some hundreds have been added to the Presbyterian churches. In a moral point of view this state presents a more pleasing aspect than it has done for many years. Within a few months past, the country has settled down into a more peaceable and prosperous condition. The tone of public feeling has changed. Some of the first men in the state are turning to the Lord, and the Spirit of God is lifting up a banner against licentiousness, vice and ungodliness, infidelity and crime, which for some years past have *portended such awful desolation.*

"The college under the care of President Holley has declined so much in public opinion, as not to contain more than 50 students; whereas Centre College, under the care of the Synod of Kentucky, lately gone into operation, is thronged with students, one third of whom have become the subjects of the present revival of religion."

Georgia.—We learn from a correspondent that the attention in the college at Athens continued but a short time since; and that nearly thirty had hopefully become its subjects. In Waynesborough, more means have been called into operation, meetings are better attended, and appearances are more favorable. There is some excitement in Milledgeville and Scriven county.—*Rec. & Tel.*

Richmond, Va.—The revival in Richmond continues, and extends into the congregations of the Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians. —*ib.*

Vermont.—We learn, by a letter received in this city, that the religious attention at Bennington continues and increases. It prevails extensively among the persons who are employed in three factory buildings, belonging to a deacon of the church.—*ib.*

New-Hampton, N. H.—The Rev. Benj. F. Farnsworth, principal of the New-Hampton Academy, writes to the editor of the Watchman, that an interesting attention to religion has existed there during the summer and autumn. He has baptized fourteen candidates; several others have indulged hopes; and the number of inquirers is now greater than at any former period. All but four of the converts are members of the institution.—*ib.*

Barre, Mass.—A work of divine grace has lately commenced in this town. A goodly number have cherished a hope in the Redeemer, and have given good evidence of having passed from death unto life. Our meetings have been few, but are crowded; and sinners are pricked in the heart, as on the day of Pentecost, crying, "Men and brethren what shall we do?"—*Rel. Int.*

Richmond, Mass.—We rejoice to learn that a revival has commenced in Richmond, (Mass.) We do not know how far it has progressed. Letters just received in this city state, that "there is great solemnity resting upon many of the inhabitants, and many are surrendering themselves into the hands of the Saviour."—*ib.*

Extract of a letter from Rev. Charles Bently, dated Middle Haddam, (Con.) Dec. 19, 1826.

"God has graciously poured out his Spirit and revived his work among the people of my charge, some account of which I propose to send you in due time. I would only say at present, that near seventy are the hopeful subjects of renewing grace among this people. Twenty-one have already been added to the church, and about forty more are expected to join on the first Sabbath in January next. The work is still progressing with much interest and power."—*Con. Obs.*

Thompson, Con. and Hopkinton, N. H.—We learn from the Watchman, that there are favorable indications in both these towns.

West-Boylston, Mass.—The same paper says, that about sixty in this town have recently indulged a hope in Christ.

WESTERN RECORDER.

UTICA: TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1827.

The Messages of Governor Clinton are always full of important matter; and the one which occupies the preceding columns is perhaps inferior to none he has ever written.

To make room for the message, we have necessarily deferred several interesting articles, among which is "Philo's" answer to the second allegation of the Churchman.

Our respected correspondent "B." whose communication has been received, is mistaken in two important particulars. He supposes, first, that Philo will not answer the *Churchman* IN FULL; and second, that the subject matter of his reply, as far as it has been given, turns wholly on the doctrine of "imputation." Next week will set him right as to the first particular; and as to the second, we shall take it up under the editorial head, and be able to satisfy him that no want of "candour" has influenced us in withholding *his* communication (at least for the present) from the public eye.

Two communications, of moderate length, from Philo, finish all *he* designs to offer on the subject before us. We are greatly averse from controversy; and nothing but a sense of duty will ever lead us to engage in it, or to continue it for any length of time. For the defence of those truths of the gospel, which may properly be deemed *fundamental*, however, we hold ourselves responsible. An editor of a religious newspaper, who acknowledges no such responsibility, is worse than a non-entity.

Prize Essay on the Sanctification of the Sabbath.—The committee of correspondence appointed by the Synod of Albany on the sanctification of the Sabbath, report that forty-four essays have been received as candidates for the premium offered; that they embrace much talent; that two are nearly alike distinguished for merit; that the premium ($100) has been finally awarded to WILLIAM JAY, of Bedford, Westchester co. N. Y. Two or more of these essays are to be printed for distribution.

The committee referred to are, Drs. Blatchford, Nott, and Judge Platt.

If Christians *refuse to enquire what is duty* in relation to any important subject, they can never bring the plea of ignorance in extenuation of their *neglect* of duty. The first article in our columns to-day, brings home to the bosom of the christian community, the charge of such a neglect; and the charge is well founded.—What remains to be done?

American Education Society.—An article highly prejudicial to the interests of this society, and evidently from the pen of some bitter enemy to the cause, lately found its way into many of the political papers of the country, and in one or more of those which are issued in this village. We made some passing strictures on it at the time; but the publications of the society which have recently come to hand, give such a view of the extended operations of this branch of christian charity, as must serve forever to put the whisperings of malignity to silence.

The society commenced with small beginnings, and has been in operation but eleven years; and when it is recollected how many years are required for the completion of a regular course of studies, preparatory to the ministry, the following statements will be highly satisfactory:—

"The society can tell of six missionaries, whom it has assisted in preparing to preach the gospel to the heathen; two of whom, after having delivered their message with exemplary devotedness, have ceased from their labours, and left their bones upon pagan ground; and it can mention several other missionaries who are labouring with zeal and fidelity in distant and destitute parts of our own country. It can enumerate more than thirty, who have been settled as pastors of churches; & nearly the same number who are licensed preachers of the gospel, who will probably ere long become pastors. It sees two, whom it has aided, holding offices of great responsibility and usefulness, in two of the largest benevolent societies in the country; while two others, who have been prevented by loss of health from statedly preaching, are sending abroad a salutary and pious influence, from week to week, by means of the press. Twelve or fifteen others are engaged for the present, as instructors in academies, or as tutors in colleges; and one is a professor in a seminary for educating men for the ministry. Twelve have died who had not completed their studies. Of those who are now in different stages of their education, some are in academies and private schools; between one and two hundred are members of colleges; and a large number are pursuing theological studies in seminaries established by evangelical Christians. In one of these institutions, the theological seminary at Andover, one fourth part of the whole number of students is composed of those who have enjoyed the patronage of the American Education Society. Let any candid mind weigh these results, and consider that they have been produced in little less than ten years; let it be remembered that the gospel is probably now preached to fifty thousand souls, by those who have been aided in their preparation for the ministry by this society, and whose labours have in repeated instances been followed by revivals of religion; and that many thousands more will probably hear the gospel from those who are now under the patronage of the society, or are engaged in their preparatory course; and if ever an institution could be justly characterized as useful to mankind, who will say that the American Education Society is not entitled to this distinction?"—*Brief View, p.* 13.

Some important changes have been made in the society's operations, among which is the establishment of scholarships, on a permanent fund of $1000 each; and fifty of them have been already subscribed.

Notice.—The Agent of the A. B. C. F. M. requests us to inform those individuals, who are educating children at any of the missionary stations formerly under the patronage of the U. F. M. S., that no more than $12 per annum will be required by the American Board for their support.

National Preacher.—We have just received the 7th number of this work, containing two choice sermons, by the Rev. Doct. Miller, of Princeton, "On the evidence and duty of being on the Lord's side:" Text, Exodus xxxii, 26—"*Then Moses stood in the gate, and said—Who is on the Lord's side.*" The work is edited by Austin Dickinson, of New York; and is to consist of monthly numbers, each containing one sermon of ordinary length, or two short ones, from the pens of the most distinguished living ministers of this country, embracing five different denominations. Terms, in advance, $1; or if payment is delayed, $1 50. The specimens thus far given, warrant us in recommending the extensive circulation of the work.

The Evangelist.—The first number of a periodical tract, bearing this title, and consisting of sixteen pages, has just been issued by Ariel Works, of this village. The publication is designed as a continuation of the Christian Repository, to comprise during the year, a quantity of matter about double what was contained in that work. Terms, $2 in advance; or after six months, $3.

Political.

State Legislature.—No business of importance has as yet been transacted in either house of the Legislature, except the appointment of the usual standing committees, and the committees on the several parts of the Governor's message. The state road question is referred to Messrs. Burrows, Hager and Hall, in the Senate; and to Messrs. M'Clure, Livingston, Sherman, Barstow, Foote, Comstock, King, Mesick, Bennet, Hamilton and Seofield, in the Assembly. Mr. Wright is chairman of the committee on canals in the Senate, and Mr. Granger in the Assembly.

Defeat of the Brazilians.—The editor of the Baltimore Gazette has received a letter from Santos, dated 16th September, which says there has been a serious conflict between the Buenos Ayres troops and the Brazilians, near Montevideo, with the loss, as is reported, of 1700 prisoners; the killed and wounded not given. Gen. Alveraz was marching for Rio Grand, and it is supposed the Brazilians will abandon the province. It is stated that Admiral Brown has taken the command of the Brazilian squadron.

West-India Trade.—Among the documents transmitted by the President to Congress, is the correspondence with the British government relative to the colonial trade. It appears, that a free trade was granted by the British government with her colonies, to all nations which should adopt, within a stated period, certain reciprocal measures. Our government, not fully comprehending these conditions, declined passing any act upon the subject, and commenced a negociation. This, however, has proved rather unfortunate. The ill health of Mr. King, and other circumstances, prevented his coming to any point with the British ministry; and before Mr. Gallatin, who succeeded him, had reached England, the period had expired, and the British government, by order of council, as our readers will recollect, prohibited all intercourse of trade with her West-India colonies, in American vessels. She has since, it would appear, declined all compromise in the matter; and in one of his communications to Mr. Gallatin, Mr. Canning indulges the following pungent remarks:—

"It is not made matter of complaint, by the British government, that the United States have declined conditions, which other nations have thought worthy of their acceptance. It is, on the other hand, not the fault of the British government, if the United States have suffered the time to pass by, at which it might have been an object of greater importance to this country, to induce the United States to come into their proposals. The United States exercised upon this point, a free judgment; and they can, on their part, have no reason to complain that Great-Britain, after allowing ample time for maturing that judgment, is contented to abide the result of their decision." *Ith. Jour.*

Disturbance at Washington.—In consequence of sundry accusations which have from time to time appeared in the public journals, and which have finally been lodged in the war department, charging Vice-President Calhoun, while acting as Secretary of War, with having participated in the profits of constructing fortifications at the Rip-Raps, that gentleman, on the 29th ult. addressed a note to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, demanding an examination into his official conduct. In the mean time, Mr. Calhoun declines to act as Vice-President of the United States, till his conduct shall have been thoroughly investigated, and his character cleared of the foul aspersion. Mr. C.'s communication was referred to a committee of seven, consisting of Messrs. Floyd, Wright, Williams, Campbell, Clark, Ingersoll and Sprague.

New-York Oyer and Terminer.—The court opened on Tuesday last, pursuant to adjournment, for the purpose of pronouncing sentence on the persons recently found guilty of conspiracy.

The counsel for Barker, Vermilyea, Davis, Brown, and Spencer, produced a *certiorari*, allowed by Judge Woodworth, for carrying the proceedings in their cases up to the supreme court; the effect of which is, to bring the alledged errors in this court to an argument, and to settle the question as to the right of the defendants to a new trial. On motion of the District-Attorney, however, the court ordered the amount of the recognizances to be increased; two sureties in $5000 each, for the defendants respectively, and the defendants themselves each $10,000.

The court then proceeded to pronouce sentence on Henry B. Lambert, Samuel F. Lambert, Charles Mowatt, and Thomas Hyatt.—Judge Edwards prefaced the sentences by a brief review of the prominent facts disclosed in the testimony; adverted to the aggravation by which they had been accompanied, and spoke of the utter absence of any thing in the nature of extenuation. He dwelt on the necessity of preserving the upright administration of our monied institutions unimpaired; and pointed out the destructive results, both to the community and to individuals, of the violations of confidence placed in them. He remarked that in the cases before him, the breaches of confidence had been both official and individual; and that the frauds in which they had terminated, had been long and systematically pursued. The standing of the defendants, the judge said, was any thing but a palliation. The many victims of vice who are regularly arraigned before the court, may, he added, urge in excuse, their ignorance and their distresses, the latter often of a nature to force tears from justice, while she strikes; but the defendants here had no such apology; with their talents and their advantages in society, they enjoyed the means of obtaining a respectable support. He then stated the grounds on which the court had thought it right to discriminate in their punishments, the principal of which was the obtaining of affidavits by Mowatt and Hyatt, of the entire payment of the capital of the Lombard and Madison companies, when no capital had been paid in; and proceeded to pronounce—

That Charles Mowatt be confined in the penitentiary for the term of *two* years. Henry B. Lambert and Samuel F. Lambert, ditto, each for the term of one year. Thomas Hyatt, ditto, for the term of two years. The latter not answering to his name, his recognizance was forfeited.

The next court of oyer and terminer will be held in March, when the other individuals indicted for conspiracies to defraud will be called up for trial.—*N.Y. Statesman.*

Deaf and Dumb.—The scholars of the Canajoharie deaf and dumb school, under the care of De Witt Clinton Mitchel, were examined in the assembly chamber on Thursday, after the adjournment, in the presence of most of the members, who expressed the highest gratification at the improvement and intelligence shown by this interesting class of the human family. We hope they may feel disposed to grant a liberal donation for their instruction.—*Alb. D. Adv.*

Indian Murders.—Two citizens of Thomas county, Georgia, and four children of a Mr. Allen Carr, living on Oscilla river, Florida, with their uncle, a Mr. Trulock, have been recently murdered by the Seminole or Lower Creek Indians; and it is believed the family of Mr. Dennis Adams, of the same neighbourhood, who are missing, have shared the same fate. Gen. Call, with a party of men, has gone in pursuit of them, and will probably bring the offenders to punishment.

Georgia.—It appears that our patriotic neighbors of Georgia have not got land enough yet. Their legislature have unanimously passed resolutions, requesting the President of the United States to cause treaties to be held with the Cherokee nation of Indians, for the purpose of extinguishing their title to lands within the limits of Georgia, for the exclusive benefit of that state.—*N.Y. Spec.*

The legislature of South Carolina have passed a resolution, giving the heirs of Thomas Jefferson ten thousand dollars, in the six per cent stock of that state.

The circuit court and court of oyer and terminer for Ontario county, commenced its session on Monday last, and it was expected that the trials of the persons concerned in the outrage against William Morgan would commence on Wednesday morning.

The Rochester Daily Advertiser says, that Morgan had been traced as far as Fort Niagara, where he was confined one night.

The snow is two feet deep at Albany, and the sleighing it said to be good from Buffalo to New York, and from Albany to Boston.

WESTERN EDUCATION SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was holden at Westmoreland on the 27th of December; when, by recommendation of the Directors, the time for holding the annual meeting, hereafter, was changed to the first Wednesday in May. As but little more than three months will elapse before the first meeting of the Society, according to this new arrangement, it has been judged expedient by the directors, to defer the publication of their annual report until that time. The amount of donations to this Society, in the course of the year, in cash, provisions, and other articles, as stated in the report which was presented at this meeting, is $1814 85. It has assisted twenty-seven beneficiaries the past year, and has now eighteen under its care. This Society promises as extensive and permanent usefulness as its friends and patrons have ever anticipated. Signed in behalf of the Directors,

JAMES EELLS, *Gen. Agent of the W. E. Society.*

Westmoreland, Jan. 1, 1827.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Oneida Bible Society, will take place on Wednesday the 17th inst. at 6 o'clock, P. M. in the session-room of the 1st Presbyterian Society, Hotel street.

E. VERNON, *Rec. Sec'ry.*

January 9, 1827.

Western Domestic Missionary Society.

Received from Stowe's Square, $1 19; and from the Presbyterian Society at Turin, $2 00, by Rev. Phineas Camp.

SAM'L STOCKING, *Treas'r.*

DEATHS.

In Buffalo, on the 21st ult. *Erastus Granger,* Esq. aged 62. Mr. G. was among the first settlers of that town, and has held the various offices of Indian agent, collector of the port of Buffalo creek, postmaster, and judge of Niagara common pleas.

In Hubbardston, Vt. Mrs. *Elizabeth Greenwood,* wife of Major Moses Greenwood, in the 51st year of her age. Mrs. G. was born at Cherry Valley, N. Y. and at the age of four years, was saved from the massacre of the Indians, who killed both her parents & burnt their dwelling.

In Newburyport, Mass. on the 23d ult. after a fortnight's illness, Rev. *Samuel P. Williams,* aged 48, pastor of a church in that place, and a native of Wethersfield, Conn.

In Canterbury, Conn. on the 15th ult. Rev. *Thomas J. Murdock,* pastor of the 1st congregational church, aged 36.

In New-York, on the 2d inst. *John B. Coles,* Esq. aged 66.

Draper's & Tailor's Notice.

THIS MANCHESTER has taken into copartnership, ABM. B. WILLIAMS, WM. KENT, and ROBERT S. LATIMORE. The business hereafter will be conducted under the firm of *O. MANCHESTER & Co.* at the old stand, No. 52, Genesee-street.

Utica, Jan. 1, 1827. 1

Carpets—Carpets—Carpets.

No 62, *Genesee-street.*

Shearman & Thomson,

HAVE received, in addition to their former Stock, a great variety of patterns of Ingrain and Brussels CARPETING, which they pledge themselves to sell at New York prices.

Utica, December 19, 1826. 51w6

NEW ESTABLISHMENT.

M. D. Parker & J. C. Hastings,

Have entered into partnership in the

Wholesale & Retail Grocery Business,

under the firm of

Parker & Hastings,

And have taken the Store lately occapied by J. C. Hastings & Co.

BEING entirely in the Grocery Line, and consequently purchasing their Goods in large lots, they are enabled to sell them at as low a price as they can be bought west of New-York, for cash or approved credit. They invite the attention of Country Merchants to the above, as they feel assured that it will be for their advantage to give them a call.

Utica, Oct. 24, 1826. 43

REMOVAL.

Parker & Hastings,

SINCE the late fire, have removed to the Store occupied by *Levi Cozzens,* next above J. Welles' Coffee-House, near the Canal, where they will be happy to attend upon the calls of their former Customers, and the Public generally.

Utica, Nov. 28, 1826. 49

Poetry and Music.

"KINDLED ONLY AT THE SKIES."

From the London Home Missionary Magazine.

"A THRONE OF GRACE."
HEB. IV. 16.

A throne of grace! it might have been
A throne of furious ire,
Whence might have rush'd, on men of sin,
Floods of eternal fire.

A throne of grace! then let us go,
And offer up our prayer;
A gracious God will mercy show
To all that worship there.

A throne of grace! oh, at that throne
Our knees have often bent,
And God has shower'd his blessings down,
As often as we went.

A throne of grace! rejoice, ye saints,
That throne is open still,
To God unbosom your complaints,
And there inquire his will.

A throne of grace we yet shall need,
Long as we draw our breath,
And Jesus too, to intercede,
Till we are chang'd by death.

The throne of glory then shall glow
With beams from Jesus' face,
And we no longer want shall know,
Nor need a throne of grace.

EGOMET.

Miscellaneous.

From the Christian Spectator.

TRANSLATION OF ECCLESIASTES, xii. 1—7.

With a brief Explanation of the Imagery employed, and the Sentiment conveyed by it.

1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth,
Before the days of evil come,
Or the years draw nigh, in which thou shalt say
There is to me no pleasure in them;

2 Before the light of the sun is darkened,
Or the moon and the stars,
Or the clouds return after the rain:

3 Before the day when the keepers of the citadel tremble,
The men of strength bow down,
The grinders cease from their labour because they are few,
The prospect from the windows is darkened,

4 The doors are shut toward the street,
When the sound of the grinding is low,
And one starts up at the sound of a sparrow,
And all the daughters of song are hushed.

5 Also, that which is high is feared,
And terrors are in the way,
Yea, the almond is loathed,
The locust beomes disgusting,
And stimulants to appetite are ineffectual;
For man is going to his eternal home,
And the mourners are passing in procession through the streets:

6 Before the silver chain is severed,
And the golden cup dashed in pieces;
The bucket at the fountain is crushed,
And the wheel at the cistern is broken;

7 For the dust is returning to earth as it was,
And the spirit to God who gave it.

The object of the sacred writer, in the passage which I have just recited, is to enforce upon the young the importance of an early remembrance of their Creator, by a consideration of the evils incident to old age. The gloom, and feebleness, and despondency of this period of life, are arrayed before the mind in a series of images, of remarkable elegance and expressiveness.

The first image is that of a long continued storm. Thick rain-clouds obscure the heavens, excluding the light of the sun by day, and that of the moon and stars by night. As often as a short cessation of the storm, and a momentary gleaming through of light, excite hope of fair weather, so often is hope disappointed; the clouds again condense and gather blackness; which is the meaning of the phrase "the clouds return after rain." At such a season how does every thing wear the appearance of gloom; how do the spirits sink, and how does all energy of action cease. Thus gloomy, thus desponding, is old age. The sun-light of anticipation and hope is departed, and the buoyancy of youthful spirits is depressed.

The next image is that of a besieged fortress. Many of its defenders have been slain. The enemy without threatens. All is anxiety and alarm. The keepers tremble. The strong men are reduced by watching and hunger, and are bowed down with anxiety and fear. The grinders cease from their labour because they are few. It is well known that in Palestine, and the east generally, the grinding of corn is a domestic manual operation, performed in preparing every meal. How vivid a conception of the gloomy state of the fortress is excited at once in our minds, by this simple, but picturesque allusion! So reduced is the number of its defenders, such terror has seized upon the survivors, that the most necessary occupations are suspended; even the grinders cease from their labour in preparing food. Other circumstances follow in the description, if possible, still more expressive. From fear of the enemy, they close the doors and darken the windows. Silence and terror reign. The noise of the grinding, that once denoted plenty, is low; the melody of all the daughters of song is hushed, and now the notes of the harmless sparrow causes them to start with trepidation. No circumstances could have been selected, better adapted to produce in the mind a lively conception of the gloom and helplessness of a citadel thus deprived of its defenders, exhausted of its resources, and filled with consternation. The description is characterized throughout, by a most expressive speciality; there is nothing general, nothing unnecessary. But this whole description, elegant and forcible as it is, has been not unfrequently degraded by interpreters, in their attempts to force its several parts into symbols of some portion of the human body, or of some special feature of old age. How perfectly dignified and natural does it appear, when we regard it in a general view; considering the gloom, and helplessness, and exhaustion of advanced years!

The writer now proceeds to a literal enumeration of some of the characteristics of the aged. That which is high is feared, and terrors are in the way; that is, their feebleness causes them to shrink back from their effort; to walk, especially to ascend an eminence, seems to them an arduous task. "I remember the time," said one, who had attained the great age of 136 years, "when those *high* mountains seemed to me like mole hills." Their appetite for food has also forsaken them. The almond, once so highly esteemed, is now loathsome. The locust, a species of which is considered as a delicious food by the oriental nations, has become disgusting. And those condiments, which once had power to sharpen the appetite, are now ineffectual. Surely old age, without the favour of God, is a *day of evil*, in which one *must* say, *there is no pleasure*.

To complete this highly wrought picture, several striking images are introduced, alluding to the near approach of death. The parting of the silver chain or cord, by which at oriental feasts the chandeliers were suspended from the ceiling, with the consequent destruction of the golden oil vessel, and the breaking of the wheel and the bucket, by which the water was drawn from their fountains or cisterns, represent the destruction of life, and the dissolution of the body, by a figure similar to that which modern writers use, when they say, "the lamp of life is extinguished."

Youth, then, says the sacred writer, is the fittest season to enter into the service of God, and secure his favour; when all is light and cheerful, and every power is full of vigor. Delay not till old age approaches with its complicated evils; then all is dark and gloomy, as when dark clouds constantly returning, shut out the light of the sun, and the moon, and the stars; then all is weakness, despondency and terror, as in a besieged fortress, when its defenders tremble, its strong men are bowed down, its doors and windows are closed and barred; the noise of merriment, and even of necessary occupations, is silenced, and the chirping of an innocent sparrow excites alarm; the strength and appetite fail; man is about to go to his eternal home, and the mourners are about to pass in procession through the streets; the silver chain will soon be parted, and the golden cup dashed in pieces; the wheel and the urn at the fountain will soon be broken; the dust must return to the earth as it was, and the spirit unto God who gave it.

Happy they who listen to the persuasive eloquence of this beautiful portion of the sacred writings; who devote the freshness and vigour of their youthful days to the service of their Creator! Thus he will be their friend. His love will beam upon their souls, when the storms of adversity and the darkness of age overtake them. When nature is despondent, and sinks from infirmity, a light from heaven will cheer them.—And though the earthly house of their tabernacle be dissolved, they have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

From the London Missionary Register.

LABRADOR.

MISSION OF THE UNITED BRETHREN.

Br. Kohlmeister's View of the Mission.

On the return of this venerable missionary to Europe, after a service in Labrador of 34 years, he gave a general view of the state of the mission, from which we collect the following particulars:—

Population.—This is on the increase. The congregation at Okkak, in particular, obtains a great increase from year to year, by the arrival of heathen from the coast to the north of the settlements. The number of Esquimaux in its neighbourhood is, indeed decreasing; but Okkak may yet be called a "mission among the *heathen*." Nain and Hopedale are now *christian* settlements, all the inhabitants being initiated into the christian church by holy baptism, and no heathen live in their neighborhood. Their increase, therefore, depends on the rising generation, and on the accession of persons coming from a distance to reside among them on this account. The endeavors of the missionaries, in these two settlements, are particularly directed to instil into the minds of the youth the principles and precepts of vital christianity, and to see to it, that, by the grace of our Saviour, all the souls committed to their care become more firmly grounded and established in faith and love, and walk worthy of their high and heavenly calling: this is done by faithful instruction, accompanied with watchfulness and prayer.

Piety.—The work of God in the hearts of our dear Esquimaux proceeds in the power of the Spirit and with rich blessing; and I may with truth assert, that they grow in grace, and in the love and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Those things which were formerly practiced by the Esquimaux, their sorcerers, and angekoks, and by which our brethren were so much annoyed & distressed at the beginning of the mission, are at present hardly ever heard of, the heathen themselves being ashamed of them.

Scriptures.—The most efficacious means of promoting their growth in grace, is the reading of the New Testament, which they have now in their hands, through the generosity of the venerable British and Foreign Bible Society. They read therein daily in their tents, with the greatest earnestness, delight, and edification. During the long winter nights, when at a distance from the settlements at their hunting places, their most agreeable occupation is to read the scriptures together. As there are some who have not acquired this proficiency, having become converts at a more advanced period of life, the children or young people read aloud, while the rest are quietly mending their tackle, or setting down and doing other work. We have, indeed, ever since the arrival of this most precious gift, observed a great change. Their understanding of the Word of God and the doctrines which it contains has greatly increased, and the influence on their moral conduct is manifest; for they now, more than ever, desire to regulate their walk and conversation in conformity to truly christian principles; the reading of the scriptures kindles new life in their hearts, and affords us desirable opportunities to converse with them on the meaning and application of the truths thus made to them, for they frequently come to inquire the meaning of one or other sentence or word, and the explanations and remarks that ensue are made by the Holy Spirit useful and blessed to their souls.

Hymn Book.—The new hymn book is a truly valuable present. When they heard that it had arrived, they rejoiced exceedingly; and we are convinced, that the use of it will, by the Lord's blessing, prove a means of great edification to them, and fill their hearts with gratitude toward their benefactors.

Schools.—These are held with both children and adults, from November to April; and are a most powerful means of forwarding their improvement, in every thing good and profitable for them. Most of our people attend them with great diligence, and with an earnest desire to be soon able to read the New Testament for themselves.—There are among the children, some of five and even four years of age, who can read well. The severest punishment that can be inflicted on a child, is to keep him from school.

From the Philadelphian.

MR. EDITOR—The following touching story was related to me by a friend, and I have ventured from memory to communicate it to you for publication:—

A minister of the gospel, a resident of the interior of Pennsylvania, being on a journey to this city, one morning before the dawn of day, broke the silence which prevailed among his fellow travellers, by enquiring if there were none of them, who could enliven the hour before sunrise, by raising a note of praise to the gracious and glorious Giver and Author of all their mercies and consolations—urging the reasonableness and pleasantness of the duty proposed; but no heart among the whole number, seemed to be in tune for such a service. The speaker brought "strange things to their ears." The songs of Zion were matters with which they were wholly unacquainted, as they were with their glorious theme; their lips were sealed, and silence again resumed her reign; but presently the morning light began to gild the orient, when the driver, who had overheard the conversation, and perceived with astonishment the result, raised his voice, and with elevated affections sang—

"Lord, in the morning thou *shalt* hear
My voice ascending high;
To thee will I direct my prayer,
To thee lift up *mine* eye;"

and continued his offering of praise through the whole of this excellent psalm, to the astonishment and shame of his auditors. The stage soon stopped at its usual watering place, when he sprang from his seat, and opening the coach door, said—"Gentlemen, the coach will stop for a few minutes; if any of you have a word to say to a poor, sick and dying fellow creature in this house, please follow me." Oh, ye wise, mighty, and noble of the earth, when this poor stage driver shall "come to the general assembly and church of the first born, and shall sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and all the spirits of the just made perfect, in the kingdom of God," where will ye appear?

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY.

From Mr. Brigham's Report of the State of Religion in Spanish America.

"At the moment the sun sets, the great bell of the cathedral strikes a single stroke, and is slowly followed by all the churches in the city, thus continuing the solemn sound for one or two minutes. On hearing the first sound from the cathedral, as it were a voice from the sky, every man, woman and child drops all employment, every coach stops, all on horseback dismount, every head is uncovered, and the streets hushed to the stillness of the grave. Look around on the multitude, and every lip is whispering its evening prayer, every thought directed *professedly* up to Him, who has given them the blessings of another day. Did not the next moment of mirth, and their general immorality, show that this service is performed with thoughtless formality, it would be a service truly useful as well as striking; and I have sometimes wished that it were introduced among us, where we have too many who seldom pray, or think of the Giver of all our mercies."—*Miss. Her.*

ROMISH HOSTILITY TO THE SCRIPTURES.

As a further proof of the hostility of the church of Rome to the reading the scriptures, it may be mentioned that one of the latest additions to the *Index*, or list of books, which Roman Catholics are forbidden to read, contains three editions of the New Testament in the Italian langua printed in Italy; although they are t vn versions, and two of them from tha. of Martini, formerly archbishop of Florence, without notes, therefore, unquestionably, *not* containing any heretical comments. Yet the Pope, in the year 1820, condemns these books in the following terms:—"Let no one, of any rank or degree whatsoever, hereafter dare to publish, read or have in his possession the above mentioned condemned and forbidden books;" and then denounces punishment upon all who shall transgress!—*Lond. Evan. Mag.*

THE SWEARER PUNISHED.

About three weeks ago, (June, 1826), a servant boy, of the age of 14, in the parish of Swineshead, in the county of Lincoln, was ploughing for his master. The horses not moving exactly in as rapid a manner as the boy wished them, owing to the excessive heat of the weather, he began to curse and swear in a most dreadful manner at them, and to flog them most unmercifully. As their pace was not much quickened by these means, he became quite frantic with rage, and tore his hair, and continued his dreadful oaths, calling upon God to blast his limbs. God heard and answered his impious prayer, *and struck him.* He was instantly deprived of the use of his limbs, and though he has begun to drag his legs with some difficulty after him, *he has never yet spoken*, (July 17th); but remains an awful monument of divine justice, and of the anger of God against all swearers and blasphemers.—*ib.*

ANECDOTE OF BONAPARTE.

The work from which this is extracted is a "New Dictionary of Anecdotes," by Ramsay, under the head of Painting.

After relating an interview of our countryman, Mr. West, the late President of the Royal Academy, during a visit to Paris, in 1802, whilst Napoleon was first consul of the French republic, the narrator continues:—

"They then proceeded through the Louvre, and when they arrived at the bust intended to be erected on that day, Bonaparte paused, folded his arms, as he is represented in his statues, and after appearing to contemplate one of them with peculiar thoughtfulness, he turned to the visitors.—"Mr. West, if I had my choice, I would rather be the original of that bust, than any man I ever read or heard of." *It was the bust of Washington.*

"I was burning," said Mr. West, relating the anecdote to the writer, "to tell him that he had it in his power, that moment, by sacrificing his ambition and establishing the liberties of his country, to be himself the very man."

NEW GOODS.

No. 36, Genesee Street.

THE subscriber is now receiving a general assortment of Dry Goods, suitable for the season; also 50 crates Crockery and Glass Ware with a few chests Tea, and a few barrels Brown Sugar, Molasses, &c. &c. which he offers for sale on reasonable terms at wholesale or retail. A small share of public patronage will be thankfully received.

OREN CLARK.

Utica, 13th September, 1826. 79tf

Dry Goods & Groceries.

JOHN CAMP & Co. No. 98, Genesee street Wholesale and Retail Dealers in India, European, and American Dry Goods, Liquors and Groceries.

Cash and the highest prices paid for Pot and Pearl Ashes.

May 24, 1826.

Drugs, Medicines, &c.

M. HITCHCOCK, has constantly on hand, a large assortment of Drugs and Medicine, Dye Wood and Dye Stuff, Paints and Oil, Liquors and Groceries; Wholesale and Retail

Feb 3. 1826. 3tf

Rensselaer Oswego Academy.

THIS institution is now under the care of Mr. WILLIAM C. WHITE, a recent graduate of Williams' College, a young gentleman of fair character and respectable attainments. Board and Tuition as reasonable as at other similar institutions. ELIAS BREWSTER,

Pres't of Board of Trustees.

Mexico, Dec. 1, 1826. 49

For Sale,

THE HOUSE AND LOT situated in the village of Utica, at the lower end of Broad street, nearly opposite the Dry Dock, and near the contemplated Basin. The house is convenient for two families, or for four small families; having four square rooms, four closets, two small bed-rooms, two bed-presses, two clothes-presses, with a Cellar under the whole, and an oven and fire-place in the Cellar. The house is new and in good repair. For terms inquire of CHAS. SLAWSON,

At J. C. DELONG'S Morocco Factory.

Utica, May 2d, 1826.

NOTICE is hereby given, to the owner or owners of the following Lots, together with the buildings thereon, viz: The one occupied by Jabez Miller, and the one occupied by Dennis Neilis, both situate on the southerly side of Broad street, between Franklin and John streets, that the payment of five dollars, at which sum John R. Bleecker was assessed, for altering the pavement at the mouth of Broad street, for the purpose of conveying the water from Franklin street, across said Broad street to Genesee street, is required by the Trustees of the village of Utica, to be made to the Treasurer of said village; and in default of said payment, the right and title of the said John R. Bleecker to the above described premises, will be sold at public auction, on the 9th day of May next, at the house of Gurdon Burchard, in said village, at ten o'clock, A. M. of that day, for the lowest term of time that any person shall offer to take the same, in consideration of advancing the sum assessed on the same, with interest thereon, and the cost of appraisement and advertising.

H. W. OSBURN, *Collector.*

Dated November 7, 1826. 45

BY order of James Dean, Esq. judge of the Oneida common pleas, counsellor at law in the supreme court—Notice is hereby given to all the creditors of *Willis Sterne*, of Deerfield, county of Oneida, an insolvent debtor, to show cause, if any they have, before the said judge, at his office, in the town of Utica, in the county of Oneida, on the tenth day of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, why an assignment of the said insolvent's estate should not be made, and his person exempted from imprisonment, pursuant to the act, entitled "An act to abolish imprisonment for debt in certain cases," passed April 7, 1819. Dated this 19th day of October, 1826. WILLIS STERNE,

42w10 *Insolvent.*

WINES & TEAS.

2 CASKS superior Port Wine,
1 " Old Madeira, do
1 " Sicily do
1 case Champaign, do
20 boxes Claret do

Hyson, Young Hyson, Hyson Skin and Black TEA, DRUGS & MEDICINE, Dye Woods, and Dyestuff, together with a general supply of GROCERIES. A. HITCHCOCK.

83 Genesee Street.

Utica, June 23. 79tf

SWAIM'S PANACEA,

FOR THE CURE OF

Scrofula or King's Evil, Syphilitic, Mercurial and Cutaneous Diseases, Rheumatism, White Swellings, Ulcers, Diseases of the Liver, and General Debility.

IN all complicated cases of Scrofula and Syphilis this is the only remedy upon which a single hope of recovery can be reasonably founded; and there has been no instance of its failure when properly used. It imparts vigour to the whole system, while the cure is going on—*an operation so long looked for in vain in the medical world.* In many instances, where the horrible ravages of ulceration had laid bare ligament and bone, and where to all appearance no human means but amputation could have saved life, in cases as extreme even as here described, have patients been snatched from the grave and restored to good health, and the devouring disease completely eradicated. The discovery of a remedy like this now offered for sale, has been a desideratum from time immemorial. The great demand and wonderful success of this medicine have induced various persons to try to imitate it. The imitations and adulterations have in many instances protracted the sufferings of patients, when the genuine medicine would have proved instantly efficacious. Understanding that there is a mixture offered for sale in this section of country, purporting to be similar to the preparation now offered, and from the repeated solicitations of friends, the proprietor has been induced to appoint the subscribers agents for the western section of the state of New-York, of whom the afflicted can at all times obtain his genuine Panacea. It is impossible, within the limits of a newspaper, to give even a glance at the numerous instances where this remedy has proved beneficial; and we would refer all those who wish to examine cases illustrating its success to a work published in Philadelphia, (now in possession of the agents), containing the recommendations of many of the most distinguished Physicians in the United States, and from many friends to suffering humanity throughout the world. For sale at the Druggist Store of

WARNER & HARVEY.

Who are now receiving a large and excellent assortment of

Drugs & Medicine,
Dye Woods & Dye Stuffs,
Paints & Oils,

comprising as good an assortment as can be found in any section of this state; which they will dispose of at the lowest possible prices for *Cash.*

Utica, August 12, 1826. 11tf

Notice.

FOR the accommodation of those who wish to loan money for short periods, I will receive money in deposit at my Lottery and Exchange Office, No. 53, Genesee street, and allow interest at the rate of five percent per annum, for all sums that remain in my hands one month or more, giving the persons so depositing, liberty to draw their money at any time at sight. It is understood, however, that if the money is drawn out within one month, no interest will be allowed. WILLIAM CLARKE.

Utica, April 11, 1826 6tf3

NOTICE is hereby given, to the owner or owners of the following Lots, together with the buildings thereon, *viz.* The one occupied by Samuel A. Sibley & Co. situate on the easterly side of Genesee street; the one occupied by William Alverson, situate on the corner of Genesee & Broad streets; those occupied by Isaac N. Meacham, David C. Van Cott, Daniel and Morgan James, John Newland, Thomas Broadway, Henry Hickcox and Aaron Egleston, situate on the southerly side of Broad street, between Genesee and John streets; that the payment of fifty dollars, at which sum John R. Bleecker was assessed for altering the pavement at the mouth of Broad street, for the purpose of conveying the water from Franklin street, across said Broad street, to Genesee street, is required by the Trustees of the village of Utica, to be made to the Treasurer of said village;—and in default of said payment, the right and title of the said John R. Bleecker to the above described premises, will be sold at public auction, on the first day of May, 1827, at the house of Gurdon Burchard, in said village, at 10 o'clock, A. M. of that day, for the lowest term of time that any person shall offer to take the same, upon consideration of advancing the sum assessed on the same, with interest thereon, the cost of appraisement, and advertising. H. W. OSBORN, *Collector.*

Dated October 31st. 1826. 44

NOTICE is hereby given, to the owner or owners of the lot No. 119, together with the buildings thereon, situate on the northerly side of Broad-street, in the village of Utica, at present occupied by the Rev. Mr. Johnson, that the payment of seventy dollars, at which said lot is assessed, for pitching and paving said Broad-street, is required by the trustees of the village of Utica, to be made to the treasurer of said village; and in default of said payment, said lot will be sold at public auction, on the 21st day of June next, at the house of Gurdon Burchard, in said village, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of that day, for the lowest term of time that any person shall offer to take the same, in consideration of advancing the sum assessed on the same, with the interest thereon, the cost of appraisement and advertising.

H. W. OSBORN, *Collector.*

Dated December 19, 1826.

TERMS OF THE FOURTH VOLUME OF THE WESTERN RECORDER.

I. The WESTERN RECORDER will be issued on Tuesday of each week.

II. The price to Subscribers will be Two Dollars and Fifty Cents, if paid after the expiration of three months from the time of subscribing; or Two Dollars, if paid in advance, or within the first three months.

III. To persons becoming responsible for ten copies or more, a reasonable discount will be allowed.

IV. No subscription will be received for a less term than one year; and as the price is now reduced to the lowest possible state, the publishers will be under the necessity of adhering strictly to the above terms.

☞ The postage must be paid on all communications addressed to the Editor or Publishers.